GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 6

MEDIA RELEASE

Upper House committee to investigate human trafficking in NSW

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 17 November 2016

An Upper House committee has commenced an inquiry into human trafficking in NSW. The committee is chaired by the Hon Paul Green MLC of the Christian Democratic Party, and includes representatives of the Government, the Australian Labor Party and the Greens.

Mr Green said, 'Human trafficking is a horrendous crime that exploits women, children and men for numerous purposes, including slavery, forced labour and sex'.

Mr Green continued, 'The International Labour Organisation estimates that 21 million people worldwide are victims of forced labour and recent media reports indicate that there has been an increase in labour trafficking and forced marriage cases in Australia over the past year.'

"The inquiry was established to investigate the prevalence of human trafficking in NSW as well as the role and effectiveness of NSW law enforcement agencies, legislation and policies in responding to this issue. The committee will also consider practical measures and policies to address human trafficking, including security measures to protect identity documentation', Mr Green stated.

The committee is currently accepting submissions and the closing date is Sunday 19 February 2017. We will then hold public hearings, details of which will be available on our website: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/humantrafficking. The committee will report by September 2017.

Further information about the inquiry, including the terms of reference is also available on the committee's website.

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, Hon Paul Green MLC, on 9230 3484